

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Required Report - public distribution

Date: 1/22/2013

GAIN Report Number: TH3013

Thailand

Rice Price - Weekly

Weekly Rice Price Update

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Report Highlights:

TH 3013 – Export prices increased around 1 percent due to the strengthening of the Thai Baht. Domestic and exportable supplies are tighter due to the government paddy pledging program.

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Table 1: Export Prices (FOB) for various grades of Thai rice (USD/MT), Week ending Jan 21, 2013

Quality	Exporter Observations							Period Average	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	1,170	-	1,100	-	1,080	1,125	-	1,119	1,109
WR 100 B	600	-	580	-	575	565	580	580	578
PB 100%	600	-	580	-	575	590	580	585	580
PB 5%	595	-	575	-	570	585	575	580	575
WR 5%	585	-	570	-	565	555	570	569	567
WR 10%	-	-	-	-	-	550	-	550	545
WR 15%	-	-	-	-	-	545	-	545	540
WR 25%	-	-	-	-	-	540	-	540	535
WR 35%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A1 SUP	-	-	-	-	530	535	-	533	530
A1 SPEC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Exchange rate: 29.5 baht/U.S.\$

Source: Average actual prices received from exporters

Export prices increased around 1 percent due to the continued strengthening of the Thai Baht vis-à-vis the U.S. dollar (29.5 baht/US compared to around 30.0 baht/US in the previous week). In addition, exportable supplies remain tight as rice paddy pledges under the current MY2012/13 main-crop Paddy Pledging Program increased to an estimated 9 million metric tons (roughly 6 million metric tons milled equivalent), up around 70 percent from the same period last year.

To help consumers cope with the rapidly rising domestic rice prices (8-10 percent), domestic rice traders urged the government to sell its stocks of old-crop fragrant and white rice at discounted prices for domestic sales. The Sub-Committee on Rice Stock Release is expected to consider the proposal this week.

Rice Export Update

Unofficial rice exports (excluding fragrant rice) for January 14-20, 2013 totaled 87,672 metric tons, down 7,324 metric tons from the previous week. Exports of white rice and parboiled rice from January 1 – 20, 2013 totaled 236,107 metric tons, up 15.8 percent (203,961 metric tons) from last year.

According to the Department of Foreign trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) from January 1 – December 31, 2012 amounted to 6.9 million metric tons, down 35 percent (10.65 million metric tons) from the same period last year.

Table 2: Weekly rice exports (excluding fragrant rice)					
WEEK ENDING	QUANTITY	4-WK AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO	YEAR TO DATE AS % OF LAST YEAR
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)	(%)
Nov 4	138,996	129,238	4,242	7,667	-44.7
Nov 11	141,906	135,846	4,384	7,749	-43.4
Nov 18	125,421	132,422	4,509	7,832	-42.4
Nov 19	125,421	132,422	4,509	7,832	-41.4
Nov 25	83,986	122,575	4,593	7,909	-41.9
Dec 2	74,722	106,509	4,668	7,990	-41.6
Dec 9	52,767	84,224	4,721	8,081	-41.6
Dec 16	78,716	72,563	4,799	8,118	-40.9
Dec 23	100,333	76,649	4,900	8,187	-40.2
Dec 31, 2012	105,594	84,368	5,005	8,291	-39.6
Jan 6, 2013	53,439	-	53	44	20.5
Jan 13	94,996	-	148	150	-1.1
Jan 20	87,672	-	236	204	15.8

Note on data: Export figures since March 22, 2002, do not include fragrant rice. The authority to report fragrant rice exports was moved from the Thai Board of Trade to the Ministry of Commerce's Office of Commodity Standards, which does not release official fragrant rice export data. FAS/REK will report only official export numbers from the Board of Trade for non-fragrant and from the Office of Commodity Standards for fragrant rice when available, but the reader should bear in mind the difference between the data.

Source: Board of Trade of Thailand

Table 3: Weekly private registered rice export sales			
Movement (MT)	Jan. 1-4, 2013	Jan. 7-11 (Preliminary)	Jan. 14-18 (Preliminary)
Weekly sales	47,281	117,870	N.A.
4 week sum	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
4 week mov. avg.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Year-to-date sales (excluding Apr. 9 - Jun. 29)	47,281	165,151	N.A.

End of report